

**STATE OF LOUISIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

**IN THE MATTER OF  
SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS  
OCCURRING OCTOBER 29, 2009  
THROUGH NOVEMBER 3, 2009**

**AGENCY INTEREST NO. 169296**

**DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

**Pursuant to the authority** granted to the Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality under La. R.S. 30:2001 et seq., particularly La. R.S. 30:2033, I hereby make the following findings, declaration and order:

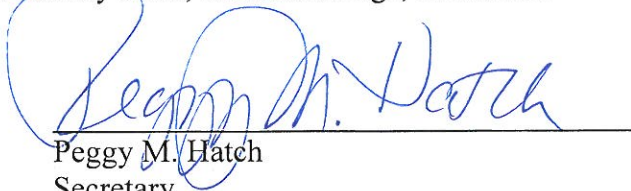
**Findings:**

1. Between October 29 and November 3, 2009, severe weather consisting of strong winds, heavy rains and tornados passed through the north and west part of the State, resulting in damage to homes and flooding. The severe weather also resulted in the creation of significant quantities of vegetative debris in the following Parishes: Bossier, Caldwell, Caddo, Desoto, Franklin, LaSalle, Lincoln, Madison, Morehouse, Catahoula, Red River, East Carroll, Ouachita, Jefferson Davis, Webster, Winn, and Union.
2. Such excess debris creates a significant fire hazard and increases a vector for diseases by providing a favorable habitat for rodent populations, thereby elevating the threat to the environment and potential for human exposure to hazardous conditions.

**Based on the foregoing findings, it is hereby declared that** this is an emergency that requires immediate action by the Department of Environmental Quality and other environmental professionals acting under its control to protect the health, safety and welfare of nearby citizens and the surrounding environment.

**It is therefore Ordered that** Parish and municipal governments in the Parishes of Bossier, Caldwell, Caddo, Desoto, Franklin, LaSalle, Lincoln, Madison, Morehouse, Catahoula, Red River, East Carroll, Ouachita, Jefferson Davis, Webster, Winn, Union and their contractors, acting under the control of the Department of Environmental Quality, be allowed to remove and dispose of the vegetative debris in the aforementioned parishes, that resulted from the severe weather occurring October 29 through November 3, 2009, and dispose of such debris in disposal sites authorized by the Department. This Declaration shall expire one hundred and twenty (120) days from the date of execution set forth below, unless modified or extended by further order.

**SO DECLARED AND DONE** this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February 2010, at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

  
Peggy M. Hatch  
Secretary